

|                               |                             |                  |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------|
| <b>Notice of Allowability</b> | Application No.             | Applicant(s)     |
|                               | 09/057,781                  | TAKATSU ET AL.   |
|                               | Examiner<br>James A. Reagan | Art Unit<br>3621 |

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1.  This communication is responsive to the amendment filed on 19 April 2004.

2.  The allowed claim(s) is/are 1, 3, 5-20, 24, and 44.

3.  The drawings filed on 09 April 1998 are accepted by the Examiner.

4.  Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)  All    b)  Some\*    c)  None    of the:

1.  Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.  Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.

3.  Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

5.  A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.

6.  CORRECTED DRAWINGS ( as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.

(a)  including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review ( PTO-948) attached

1)  hereto or 2)  to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.

(b)  including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.

**Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).**

7.  DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

#### Attachment(s)

- 1.  Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2.  Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3.  Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),  
Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
- 4.  Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit  
of Biological Material
- 5.  Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6.  Interview Summary (PTO-413),  
Paper No./Mail Date 6/3/2004
- 7.  Examiner's Amendment/Comment
- 8.  Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
- 9.  Other \_\_\_\_\_

**JAMES P. TRACMELL**  
**SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER**  
**TECHNOLOGY CENTER 3600**

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### **Status of Claims**

1. This action is in response to the amendment filed on 19 April 2004.
2. Claims 4 and 22 have been canceled.
3. Claims 1, 3, 5-20, 24, and 44 have been examined.

### **EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT**

4. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.
5. Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Robert Kelly on 03 June 2004.
6. The application has been amended as follows:
  - Claim 4 has been cancelled.

### **Reasons For Allowance**

7. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The closest prior art, Biffar (US 5,903,880) discloses a recording medium that is readable by a computer and has stored a program for allowing a computer to function as an electronic note-generating device. The invention of Biffar discloses identification codes, network connections,

and personal authorizations. With regard to independent claims 1, 24, and 44, Biffar does not specifically disclose, teach, or otherwise show at least the system component of a means for supplying information indicative of said excess amount and said electronic note of an amount exceeding said excess amount to said electronic note generation means. This has the intended result of preventing unauthorized notes in excess of a predetermined and legitimate amount from being generated.

### Conclusion

8. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.
  - JP 03001290 A to Takada discloses a negotiable instrument issuing device.
  - Law et al. "HOW TO MAKE A MINT: THE CRYPTOGRAPHY OF ANONYMOUS ELECTRONIC CASH" discloses cryptography and electronic cash.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to **James A. Reagan** whose telephone number is **(703) 306-9131**. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday, 9:30am-5:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, **James Trammell** can be reached at (703) 305-9768.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the **Receptionist** whose telephone number is **(703) 305-3900**.

Any response to this action should be mailed to:

***Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks***

**Washington, D.C. 20231**

or faxed to:

**(703) 305-7687** [Official communications; including

After Final communications labeled "Box AF"]

**(703) 308-1396** [Informal/Draft communications, labeled  
"PROPOSED" or "DRAFT"]

Hand delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park 5,  
2451 Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA, 7<sup>th</sup> floor receptionist.

JAR  
03 June 2004